(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) the action Government are taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) Government have been receiving a number of reprsentations from various sources including the Apex Association of DDA Colonies regarding conversion of lease hold system in Delhi into free hold. Any decision to abolish or modify the lease hold system relating to residential properties in Delhi will have to be taken keeping in view the financial and other implications and the likely repercussions. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to indicate when a final decision will be taken.

Selection of artistes for Doordarshan programmes

457. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the mode of selection of artistes in the programmes produced by Doordarshan for itself;

(b) the schedule of payment to them; and

(c) whether there is any regular panel of artistes for this purpose with Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Artists are selected by Doordarshan according to the nature, subject, scope, format and other requirements of the programme. For music and dance programmes, artists approved and graded by Audition/Screening Committees constituted for the purpose, are offered telecast engagements.

(b) The schedule of payment to the performing artists, etc. is given in the Annexure [See Appendix] CXXXVIII, Annexure No. 7].

(c) In the case of drama and dance, a panel of performing artists is prepared at each Kendra after proper audition test. For music programmes, artists approved by AIR are offered telecast engagements. For the programmes of spoken words like interviews, discussions, etc., the artists are engaged on the basis of their knowledge and experience, their experitise in a particular subject and the specific requirement of the programme. A list of artists in this category is also maintained by Doordarshan Kendras.

Newsprint Policy

458. SHRI T. CHANDARSEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 656 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1985 and state:

(a) whether Government have evolved the newsprint policy for 1985-86;

(b) if not, what are the reasons for delay in announcing the policy; and

(c) by when the policy for the current year is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) It has not been possible to finalise the Newsprint Allocation Policy so far in view of the complexities involved in evolving a long-term Policy. However, uninterrupted supply of newsprint to newspapers has been ensured.

(c) While no firm date for announcement of the said Policy can be indicated, it will be the endeavour of the Government to announce the same as expeditiously as possible.